# Secretary Stephanie Pollack's Report to the FMCB and MassDOT Board

**Monday, June 17, 2019**

# Commonwealth
# Capital Investment Plan

- Baker-Polito Administration announced its $2.43 billion FY20 Commonwealth CIP. Includes:
  - $1 billion in state bond cap for transportation infrastructure
  - $137 million in climate investments (annualized)
    - $75 million in new climate investments
    - $60 million in continuing investments targeting the causes and effects of climate change
  - $10 million for major harbor dredging

"The Administration continues to partner with cities and towns to enable major investments in local infrastructure, increase access to housing in our communities, and improve the efficiency of local government with technology investments"

*- Lieutenant Governor Polito*

"This is a responsible plan that will meet many of the Commonwealth's most significant needs, including reliable transportation and increasing housing production, while supporting local communities, promoting economic development opportunities, and protecting infrastructure from the impact of a changing climate"

*- Governor Baker*

# Capital Investment Plan

- FMCB and MassDOT Board asked to vote on final FY 2020-2024 CIP today: five years of MBTA & MassDOT investments totaling $18.3 billion
- 45% of $18.3 billion focused on reliability and resiliency projects

# Workforce Transit Grant Program

- New MassDOT program to encourage creation of more employee transit options
- Will distribute $1.5 million annually state-wide

  Grant terms: 1 to 5 years
- MassDOT holding listening sessions with employers to identify employee transportation needs, including: June 21 in Worcester and June 24 in Andover.
- Survey for employers:

https://mbta.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_51J9ZTLIxodbvvf

# Cape Cod Canal Study

- The Draft Final Report will close its 30-day public comment period end of day June 20
- Study identifies improvements for motor vehicles, public transit, bicyclists and pedestrians in the Cape Cod Canal area
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers owns and manages Bourne and Sagamore Bridges & MassDOT continues to engage USACE on bridge approach improvements

# 2018 Rideshare Data Released

- June 13: 2018 Data Report on Ridesharing in Massachusetts is released
- In 2018, 81.3 million rides in MA by Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) – 25% more than in 2017
- The largest increases in rides by TNCs were in Boston, Cambridge, and Somerville
- In 2018, $16 million was generated from the $0.20 assessment on TNC rides
- 4.1 million rides to Logan; 2.9 million rides from Logan

# Women's Transportation Seminar Awards

- On Thursday, June 20, two senior officials from MassDOT and the MBTA will be honored at the Women's Transportation Seminar Awards
- MassDOT Chief Engineer Patricia "Patty" Leavenworth - "Woman of the Year"
- Assistant General Manager for System-Wide Accessibility Laura Brelsford - the Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award

# RMV Operational Improvements

*Photograph: First customer served in new Watertown Service Center*

**New Watertown RMV**

- Expanded service area
- Better accommodates dual-line queuing model inside center
- 3 additional workstations to better serve 3rd highest volume service center in state
- Increased customer seating area

**New Taunton RMV Service Center**

- On target for July 1st opening

# Counter-Unmanned Aerial System Working Group Kickoff

The Counter-UAS (CUAS) Working Group kickoff meeting was held on May 16, 2019

- MassDOT Aeronautics charged with convening stakeholders to share best practices, and the coordination efforts
- Working Group will find solutions to safeguard from drone misuse
- More than 20 federal, state, local and research organizations participating

Working Group discussion topics included critical infrastructure, and WG structure to move forward.

- The CUAS Working Group will meet quarterly
- A Technical Team will meet monthly to lead the coordination efforts.
  - Policy & Regulatory, Communications & Outreach, Emerging Technologies, and Operations Evaluation & Improvement

# Safe Routes to School Award Ceremony

- Thursday, May 30, MassDOT celebrated the successes of SRTS partner schools and community champions
- Over 140 SRTS partner schools were honored
- The 2019 Nikki Tishler Memorial Award was given to Molly Reid of South Street Elementary School, Fitchburg

*Photograph: Secretary Pollack honored to joint SRTS partners and champions at the ceremony on the State House Grand Staircase*

# MWRTA Rte. 20 Corridor Shuttle

- Monday, June 10, Metrowest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA) begin pilot shuttle service from Framingham Station to Riverside Station
- MWRTA is using a $350,000 grant from MassDOT to run a pilot to benefit commuters.
- Fare: $1.50 cash, $1.25 Charlie Card
- Pilot program will run through June 30, 2020

*Image: MWRTA Ribbon Cutting event invitation*

# Peregrine Falcon Chick Banding

- MassDOT and Mass Wildlife officials were in Chicopee recently banding peregrine falcon chicks
- Nesting boxes are installed on state bridges where the presence of Peregrine Falcons is well documented
- Peregrine Falcons control the pigeon population, limiting guano that may speed up the oxidization of structural steel
- MassDOT has installed MassWildlife nesting boxes on more than half a dozen bridges throughout Massachusetts

*Photograph of Peregrine Falcon chicks in a nesting box*